

Tropico Interurban Sentinel

FREE AND FEARLESS

Devoted to the Interests of Tropico and the San Fernando Valley

VOL. II.

TROPICO, CALIFORNIA, July 16, 1912

No. 21

For \$300 Cash

BALANCE TO SUIT

You can buy a Modern Bungalow on one of the choice lots in the Richardson Tract. Or if you own a lot we will build on similar terms. Plans furnished.

Leigh Bancroft

REAL ESTATE, LOANS AND INSURANCE

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Sunset Glendale 300; Home 1547

TRUSTEES' PROCEEDINGS

A resolution to advertise the sale of a telephone franchise in the TROPICO INTER-URBAN SENTINEL was read and adopted. The full text of the resolution is printed in another column. The applicant for this franchise, to do a telephone business in the City of Tropico, is the Pacific Telegraph and Telephone Company, which has a plant already in operation here. It is not expected that there will be competitive bidding for the franchise, but the form of a sale to the highest and best bidder is essential to the legal ownership of the right to the use of the streets and alleys of the city for poles, wires, etc. The sum bid for the franchise must cover the city's cost for advertising the notice of sale and ordinance granting the franchise and confirming its sale. A check to cover these costs payable to the city is in the hands of Mayor Bancroft. The day fixed for the sale is designated in the resolution.

In as much as the Company (the Sunset) is certain to become the purchaser of the franchise, a permit was authorized for it to go ahead with the work of extending its service.

Mr. Mellen, an expert accountant of Los Angeles was employed at \$12.50 per day, for the time actually employed to expert the books of the Glendale Consolidated Water Company, at 317 South Hill street, Los Angeles for the purpose of ascertaining the accuracy of the Tropico Water Company's reports of its receipts and disbursements in operating the Company's business in supplying the City of Tropico and its inhabitants with water for domestic and irrigating purposes.

It is expected of Mr. Mellen that he will discover the receipts of the Consolidated Company from the business of the Tropico Company will be far in excess of the cost of carrying it on.

Messrs. Rich and McNutt, of the Tropico Fuel and Feed Company were granted a permit for the storage of 500 tons of hay in the big hay barn they are building at the southerly end of the row of frame structures on the west side of the San Fernando Road, between Tropico avenue and Center street.

A communication was received from Dr. E. F. Tholen, City Health Officer, declaring the condition of the water of the Tropico Water Company's reservoir to be extremely unsanitary; that it should be emptied and cleaned at once; and that, upon being refilled, it should be filled to a depth of at least ten feet and not be allowed to fall below that depth at any time or at all.

On motion the secretary was instructed to furnish the Water Company with a copy of the communication and request a compliance with its requirements.

COUNTY BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS

The regular meeting of the Board of Freeholders of Los Angeles county was held last Tuesday evening in the office of the Board of Supervisors.

The special order of business, the report of the Committee on Roads and Highways, was laid over for one week, as the committee desired to file a supplemental report.

The Board listened to interesting addresses by Mr. Richard H. Childs, Secretary of the National Short Ballot Organization, Mr. H. S. Gilbertson, Assistant Secretary of the National Short Ballot Organization, Mr. W. A. Spaulding of the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission and Mr. Elliott H. Goodwin, Secretary of the National Civil Service Reform League.

The Board adjourned at 10:50 p. m. until Friday evening, July 12th, at eight o'clock, to hear addresses from Hon. William Dudley Foulke, President of the National Municipal League, and other gentlemen in attendance upon the convention of that organization in the City of Los Angeles.

Contracts will be awarded this week for grading, macadamizing, curbing, and sidewalking the streets of the 80-acre subdivision in the Richardson Ranch at the southwest corner of Brand boulevard and the Southern Pacific railway right of way. This subdivision is within the limits of the City of Los Angeles and promises to be popular and attractive.

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS

Editor Sentinel:

"There are so many things of interest to occupy one's time and attention at this time, I fear that many are overlooking the very important matter of local affairs.

Few realize at what a rapid rate we are growing. The city has been incorporated 15 months only.

Our population has increased from 2000 to 2500. Our taxable property from \$60,000 to \$85,000. Over 100 houses have been built. Piano factory being erected. Hospital to be built. Public Library soon to be built, and so it goes.

We must have electric lights. How about our water—and many important projects coming up that should be looked after and thoroughly discussed by some live, energetic organization. The Chamber of Commerce is doing what it can in a quiet way to guard the interests of the city. Yet we do not receive the support we should from the people. And I think it is the duty of the citizens to encourage the work by joining and attending the meetings of this organization.

At a recent meeting in the City Hall, which was well attended, a resolution was passed asking the Board of Trustees to call a bond election for \$25,000 to put in city lights. It was also the sense of the meeting that the city take over the Brand Plant in this city, and buy its electricity from some of the big power companies.

Mrs. George Howe has the petition required to call the election. It takes 264 signers, of those on the last tax roll of the city to call the election.

So I would urge all those who are interested in seeing the city have lights, to not only see that your name is on the petition, but see that your neighbor's is.

Meetings will be held from time to time, in which these different matters will be taken up. The water question is a serious one and should be looked after.

Just now Boost the Lights.
Yours truly,
FRANK H. DAVIS.

GLENDALE ASKS A FAVOR

Electric Cable Through Eagle Rock Important Move

An unexpected but nevertheless interesting proposition was brought before our city trustees on last Monday evening. The City of Glendale, through their city electrician, Mr. Lynch, asked for a right to run a high tension—33,000 volts—electric cable through Eagle Rock from Glendale to Pasadena.

It was to be expected that such a proposition, under existing circumstances, would prove of great interest, and those present at once began to ply Mr. Lynch with many questions. Naturally he could not officially answer some of them, but he was very willing to give any information he could. It was learned that the city of Glendale owns its own lighting plant and the present contract for electricity has about expired and they expect to get their supply next year from the Los Angeles aqueduct power, connecting with the Garvanza power line. But while waiting for the completion of the aqueduct power Glendale has arranged to get "juice" from Pasadena. To do this Glendale will have to run a line through Eagle Rock to get the electricity.

Mr. Lynch says that they will connect next year with the Garvanza line of the aqueduct power line, so in either case they would want to run a line through Eagle Rock.

Being asked what would be possible in the way of securing electricity from them for this city, Mr. Lynch said that Glendale was now supplying electricity for the Casa Verdugo district outside of the city limits, and also to the Tropico plant, and he knows of no reason that would prevent them from supplying Eagle Rock. Asked as to how this might be done, he said it would be possible to supply electricity from the high tension cable for a local substation or run a low voltage line back from Glendale to this city's west limits.

Glendale charges only 6 cents per kilowatt hour and makes all service connections to houses and other patrons free and are adding consumers at the rate of seventy-five a month.

Of course Mr. Lynch did not come before the board looking for customers but very kindly and freely answered all questions asked him. When the proposition comes before the board in a more definite form next Monday evening there will be a full understanding of the possibilities.—Eagle Rock Sentinel, July 11.

At a political meeting, a very enthusiastic German made a speech beginning like this: "My dear fellow citizens and fellow Germans, I don't want to say nothing about nobody, but look at dem Irish in de Tenth Ward; what have they got? Paved streets! Und vat have we got? Mut! Mut! Now, my fellow citizens und fellow Germans, vot I wish to say is this: Coom, let us put our heads together und make a block pavement."—The Housekeeper.

* LOCAL AND PERSONAL. *

FOR CAREFUL PIANO MOVING,
CALL MACDONALD'S EXPRESS.

Miss Ruth Bradley of Los Angeles is spending the week as the guest of Miss Lillie Schick of Central avenue.

Mrs. David Bardwell left for Murietta Springs the first of the week where she will spend several weeks.

MACDONALD'S EXPRESS TRANSFER AND STORAGE, 1111 W. BROADWAY, GLENDALE.

Glendale's scarcity of water is not due to failure of supply but to cussedness of management pure and simple.

IF YOU WANT A HOME IN THIS VALLEY, SEE CUNNINGHAM, SUNSET 251-J.

Mrs. M. G. Coughlan is beginning to be herself again. She will be home again the last of the week, if all goes well.

HAVE THE SENTINEL SENT TO YOU AT YOUR VACATION ADDRESS. NO EXTRA CHARGE.

Mrs. Mary Webb, a former resident of Tropico is the guest of Mrs. George Friedgen en route to her home from a pleasant sojourn at Ocean Park.

Mrs. Mary J. Bolom who has been the guest of friends at Ocean Park, has returned to her home on Brand boulevard.

Mrs. Will Hartwig of Home Court is entertaining as her house guests, Mrs. W. R. Doerschel, Mrs. Louis Miller and Miss Anna Miller.

Miss Flossie Armstrong of Bisbee, Ariz., is the guest of Mrs. Carl Schoenfeldt of Brand boulevard. Miss Armstrong was a former resident of Tropico.

TRY CONKEY'S FLY KNOCKER FOR 15 DAYS. Your money back quick if you are not satisfied. QT. 35c; 2 qts, 60c; gal., \$1. Get a can now. For sale by Davis Grocery Co.

Dr. E. F. Tholen, Tropico's distinguished physician, surgeon and city health officer is resting from the stress of his professional labors for a few days at Avalon.

FOR SALE—HIGH GRADE ELLINGTON PLAYER PIANO, with twenty rolls of music. Would trade for desirable lot in Tropico or Glendale. Call at 137 W. Park Avenue, Tropico, Cal. 3t-pd

Ralph Rogers complains that \$12.50 per 800 cubic feet, per month for water is not a fair return on the investments of the company of which he is manager,—namely: worthless promises of an unknown amount.

John G. Leecn, of Battle Creek, Michigan, who has been a resident of Tropico for some time past, with his daughter, Miss Mabel, will return home Monday—not entirely without the expectation of returning however.

Mrs. Anna L. Smith of Riverdale Drive, Glendale, and her guests Miss Mattie Kendall and Miss Rebecca Ludwig of Pittsburgh, Penn., have returned from a pleasant sojourn at Avalon.

Is it absolutely necessary to the successful service of the Tropico Water Company in furnishing the Tropico District with water that Ralph Rogers should be the manager, with offices in Los Angeles?

The mail trains of the Pacific Electric railway stop at the Laurel street crossing to receive and put off mail matter. Why not to receive and put off passengers? Perhaps they will when the street work there, now in progress is all in.

A. W. Collins, a former resident of Tropico, but more recently of Redwood City, arrived in Tropico the latter part of the week and is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Morgan of Central avenue.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the ministry of Rev. J. W. Utter, pastor of the Christian Church of Glendale, was celebrated Friday evening. When the members of the church gathered at his home on Moore avenue for an evening of pleasure and amusement.

Ralph Rogers is the manager of the sales and distribution of 62 inches of the water of Verdugo Canyon to the cities and inhabitants of the cities of Glendale and Tropico; 62 miners inches in water from the Verdugo Canyon, in 1911, was a flow of 4,251,520 cubic feet a month, which at services of 800 cubic feet a month is sufficient for 5000 services and then some. At \$1.25 per month for these services the annual revenue would be and perhaps was, \$75,000, in 1911. Isn't that straight? If not, what is the matter with it?

A delightful trip to San Diego and return with his wife and children in his automobile was the safe and sane way adopted by Mr. Dan Campbell, President of the Bank of Tropico, of celebrating Independence Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Richardson, and children, Miss Margaret and Master Nevell Richardson, are enjoying a pleasant vacation trip to their former home at Santa Paula, where they are the house guests of Mr. Richardson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Richardson.

After a pleasant visit of two months to her mother, Mrs. Mary Nesbit of Topeka, Kan., Mrs. James L. Fishback has returned to her home on West Park avenue. Mrs. Nesbit will arrive in Tropico the first of August to pass the remainder of the summer with Mr. and Mrs. Fishback.

Mr. Charles P. Coates and wife, nee Minnie Stine, of St. Louis are the summer guests of Mrs. Coates' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Stine, on Acacia avenue. Mr. Coates is an attorney and the director of the Eugene Field Manual Training School of St. Louis.

The annual picnic of the valley Sunday School Association will come off on July 23, instead of July 25, as heretofore announced. The place chosen for the affair is Long Beach. Railroad fare will be 30 cents for adults, and 15 cents for children, the round trip. Invitations to all.

East side patrons of the postoffice are asking why it is they do not have mail-deposit boxes at the street corners of Glendale and Acacia and Glendale and Cypress. They are reminded that such favors must come from the main office at Los Angeles. Ask the Postmaster General of Los Angeles. Davis is only deputy P. M. G.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Stuart Ayres very pleasantly entertained the members of the Baraca and Philathea societies of the First Presbyterian Church of Tropico, at their home on West Park avenue, Thursday evening. Following an interesting program of music and games, dainty refreshments were served.

At the Glendale indignation meeting last Friday night, statements were freely made that the water shortage in that city, which was the occasion of the indignation meeting was called to give expression to, followed the reduction of the water rate by the City Trustees with suspicious promptness.

Contractor Peter L. Ferry, received his warrant for street work on Glendale avenue on Saturday last, amounting to \$18,967.04. This is the most elaborate, as well as the most expensive piece of street work done by either Tropico or Glendale, and is a monument to the enterprise of Glendale avenue people, as well as to Mr. Ferry's skill as a road builder.

We seem to hear nothing further from the City Library proposition. What's the matter we wonder? Whose is the next move? We are indifferent as to whose it is, or what it shall be, so that it shall be in a forward direction. We are wedded to no particular site. Davenport's offer is as acceptable to us as Mrs. Richardson's so far as location is concerned. But room, grounds and appointments seem to favor Mrs. Richardson's. Yet centrality of situation should go far towards deciding the question.

SPECIAL BARGAINS THIS WEEK
Water Heaters, \$12 connected.
4 Burner Gas Range with water Coil, \$20.00.
2 Burner Gas Plates, \$25.50.
3 Burner Gas Plates, \$30.00.
6 Hole Steel Range with Reservoir and top warming oven, \$20.00.
Tin and Enamelware, Gas Supplies of All Descriptions.
TROPICO STOVE AND LIGHT CO.
201 San Fernando Road Sunset 292-J

Mr. Brand has decided that he will not sell out the Tropico Water Company under the deed of trust of which he is the beneficiary, until he can sell out the Glendale Consolidated also, the Court's order of sale for which he cannot obtain inside of three months, and then the sale will be subject to an equity of redemption within the year thereafter. Just look at the middle! Is there no way out of it?

STOP
at the Pioneer Repair Shop, 201 So. Fernando road to have your
Scissors Ground
Knives Sharpened
Locks Repaired
Keys Fitted
Saws Filed
We sharpen Lawn Mowers. Do Sol-
dering and general repairing.
Phone Sunset 292-J

THE LADIES AID SOCIETY
Of the First M. E. Church will have a lawn social at the parsonage, 406 N. Central, Friday night. Ice cream and cake, 15c. Home made candy will also be on sale. Everybody Come.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—AN EMPIRE STATE 5x7 VIEW CAMERA. A fine outfit for inside or outside work. WILL TAKE SMALLER CAMERA. or, 22. AUTOMATIC RIFLE. Call after 5 o'clock in evening. 223 Blanche Ave. Pd. 1-t

Manager Ralph Rogers is morally and religiously certain he can't manage the sale and distribution of 4,251,520 cubic inches of free water through a free pipe system at a rate that should produce a revenue of \$75,000 per annum without its being confiscatory of \$100,000 in the worthless bonds of the Glendale Consolidated Water Company.

The Eagle Rock car-line is drawing considerable patronage from Tropico and vicinity; especially from that portion of our population employed in the shops and stores of Los Angeles who must reach their places of employment by transfers from one line to another. They either walk or ride to a station in Glassell Park where they take the car. It saves them the fare of the Glendale line, of 25 cents a round trip.

INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH THE HAPPY HAPGOODS

Independence Day was celebrated by the Hapgood and Burlingham families at "Rose Villa," Mrs. Sophia Burlingham's home, West Glendale.

Under a large walnut tree the table was laid and twenty-nine sat down to a fine luncheon. After partaking of the good things pictures were taken, games enjoyed by young and old, patriotic songs sung and ice cream served.

At six o'clock all gathered about the table again and had supper, followed by a very nice display of fireworks. At a late hour all departed for home, agreeing that it had been a delightful day without discomfort of the crowds.

Those participating in the picnic were Mesdames S. Burlingham, Hapgood, Lewis, Tiffany, Peck, M. Burlingham, Dutton, Avis, De Frain, Messrs. B. Burlingham, L. Lewis, C. Hapgood, G. Peck, R. Tiffany, W. Tiffany, W. Dutton, G. De Frain, E. Peck, F. Spear, P. Lewis, Misses Stella and Annie Miller, Elsie Vance, Daphne Burlingham, Jessie and Dorothy Dutton and Pearl Bray.

W. F. Richardson, of 519 Moore avenue will deliver at your door a nice Chillian Watermelon at any time your mouth waters for one.

Mrs. Joseph Dorsey, wife of the late Joseph Dorsey, a detective 21 years in New York, is the house guest of Mrs. H. M. Goldsmith of 119½ So. Glendale avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Ripley spent Sunday at Venice.

H. W. Augustus has purchased the H. W. Melrose property on Tropico avenue and will move in this week.

Mrs. R. Sterling of Los Angeles and Wayne V. Frank of Tropico spent a few days last week at Long Beach.

William Wiehlitz is spending a few weeks at Redondo Beach.

Monday night, July 29th has been selected by the Joint Committees of the Pythian Brothers and Sisters Lodges to celebrate their first anniversary.

Music and social program and refreshments.

The Tropico Lodge of the Fraternal Brotherhood, was commissioned by the Supreme Lodge to install the officers of the Glendale Lodge last Friday night, which was done in a very satisfactory manner to a large attendance from both Glendale and Tropico.

Tropico's crack drill team carried off the honors and Capt. Brown and all of the members should feel quite honored by the many compliments paid them. Refreshments were served.

H. G. Van Meter and William McKenney who left for Nevada two weeks ago have had a very unsatisfactory trip as Bill has been sick and will be back this week.

The new home in Tropico of H. W. Melrose and family is at the corner of Walnut and Cypress.

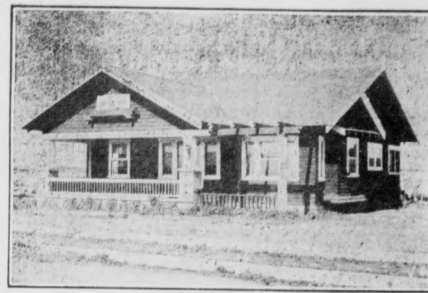
FOR SALE—Bungalow residences on the Richardson Tract, Tropico. Nine of them to pick from. All stylish, modern, and up to date in appointments. Prices \$2750 to \$3750; \$200 to \$500 down; \$25 to \$35 per month.

M. G. Coughlan, agent, corner Ceritos and Gardena avenues.

DR. STROBEL GONE
Dr. George W. Strobel, a long time resident of Tropico, died at his residence on Acacia avenue, after a long and distressing illness, at 10 o'clock yesterday (Monday morning). Interment private.

LODGE OFFICERS INSTALLED
Last Friday night witnessed the installation of the officers of Glendale Lodge No. 304 of the Fraternal Brotherhood in most magnificent form by Captain Brown's drill team of Tropico Lodge No. 203 of the same order. The officers installed were Past President Benson, President Alex. Mitchell, Vice-President, Dr. Hunt, Secretary Sister Wright, Treasurer, Bro. Cushing, Chaplain, Sister Sinclair, Sergeant, Bro. Shaver, M. of A., Sister Wright, Musician, Sister Herberger. Trustees, Bros. Tarr and Growener.

J. J. BURKE Contractor and Builder



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Tropico, Cal.

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W. A. CHAPMAN, Prop. GABIAG BLOCK
Fresh and Salt Meats
Morning Delivery, 8:30; 10:30. Afternoon, 2:00; 4:30
GOOD MEATS AND PROMPT SERVICE
PRICES LOW AS ANY IN THE VALLEY
Sunset 291 TROPICO, CAL. Home 523

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Fern Baskets
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Deciduous and Citrus Trees, Shrubbery and Ornamental Stock. Prices Right. Prompt Delivery. Phone Glendale 374-R. Cor. San Fernando road and Brand blvd.

Glendale Club Dye Works

LADIES' AND GENTS' GARMENTS CLEANED, DYED AND RE-PAIRED ON SHORT NOTICE. FRENCH CHEMICAL DRY CLEANING. GOODS CALLED FOR AND DELIVERED.
SUNITS CLEANED AND PRESSED, \$1.00
530 S. LOUISE STREET GLENDALE, CAL.

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Davis Grocery Co. CASH GROCERS

The Original Cash Grocers of the Valley. We have no solicitors, bookkeepers or collectors—You Pay for Merchandise Only.
We do not CUT PRICES on a few articles, but all through the line. You save money by giving us your business.
We Sell the Famous
Danish Creamery Butter
Jevne Bakery Goods
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Tropico Pharmacy

G. C. Baker, Proprietor

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

Civil Service Reform Was the Nucleus of the Organization Eighteen Years ago—Its Extension to Higher Officials Recommended Today.

At the present session William Dudley Foulke, of Richmond, Indiana, was elected president for the third successive time—third termism having no terrors for the leaguers. Judging by the eighteenth successive election of Clinton Rogers Woodruff, of Philadelphia, as secretary, the members know no limit. George Burnham, Jr., of Philadelphia, was re-elected treasurer for the fifth time.

In choosing vice-presidents and members of the council California was honored by five positions. Chester H. Rowell, of Fresno, was made a vice-president, Meyer Lissner and Mrs. Charles Farwell Edson, of Los Angeles, and Charles Francis Adams and Rev. Charles N. Lathrop, of San Francisco, were elected members of the council. Mrs. Edson is the first woman elected to an office in the organization.

The sessions began Monday night with a public meeting at the Auditorium theater at which an address of welcome was made by Lieut. Governor Wallace on behalf of California and by Mayor Alexander on behalf of Los Angeles. The response was by Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart of Harvard. The address of the evening was by President Foulke on "Expert City Management." Mr. Foulke in general indorsed the German system of establishing, by civil service or other accurate test, qualified officials from the highest to the lowest, in administrative work and retaining them without regard to political changes. His address was not only intended to vindicate the efficiency of civil service reform in up-building American municipal government, but it sought to justify its extension to all classes of officials.

Program on Municipal Themes Begins

The sessions of Tuesday were held in Choral hall and in the Auditorium proper. In the morning at Choral hall, after the election of officers, Clinton Rogers Woodruff discussed "Simplicity, Publicity and Efficiency in Municipal Affairs." He held these three virtues to be the real basis of success in municipal administration. Frank A. Wolff, of the bureau of standards, Washington, discussed "The Federal Government as a Potential Contributor of Municipal Advancement." He declared that the United States is spending seventeen millions annually in study of farm conditions, but is neglecting the equally important study of municipal conditions. He urged effort to induce the government to finance an adequate municipal exhibit at the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco in 1915.

In the absence of Prof. William Bennet Munro, of Harvard, his paper on "Commission Government in Large Cities" was read by Mayor Frank K. Mott, of Oakland. It was a review of the first decade of experience and evolution of this form and argued for the establishment of it, especially in the smaller cities.

"Home Rule in California," by Prof. Thomas H. Reed, of Berkeley, was a discussion of the freeholders' charter system under which California cities have made such independent progress.

"County Home Government" was discussed by Senator Leslie R. Hewitt, author of the constitutional amendment providing for county freeholders charters, Richard S. Childs, of New York, secretary of the Short Ballot organization and Percy V. Long, city attorney of San Francisco. The discussion was mainly an exposition of the law and the theory of its adoption, as there has yet been no use of it in the state.

Noon Round Table Strong Feature

Features of the league sessions are the evening "councils" and the mid-day "round table" discussions. During each the papers of the morning and afternoon are discussed informally.

In the afternoon the two programs arranged were consolidated and only one session was held, this in the Auditorium theater. One session was for the leaguers and the other was for the Woman's City club and the public. Reading of the report of the Committee on the Selection and Retention of Higher Municipal Officials was omitted and the absence of Arthur W. Dunn, of New York, who was to have presented a paper on "Civil Education" permitted consolidation of both programs.

An accident to Mrs. Caroline Bartlett Crane, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, during the afternoon further shortens the program. She slipped on a canvass on the stage falling heavily and fainting from the shock. She was taken to her rooms in the Alexandria. Her injuries are painful, but not serious. Mrs. Crane was to have told, in her paper on "Municipal Housekeeping" just what had been accomplished in Kalamazoo and other cities through organization to keep yards cleaned. Her paper was not read.

At the afternoon session Mrs. A. S. Lobingier, president of the Woman's City club, presided. About 400 persons attended. Meyer Lissner read the first paper on "Honesty plus Efficiency." He said reformers had won the battle for honesty and had placed important new instruments of government—non-partisanship, short ballot, direct legislation, etc.—in the hands of the people, but had not yet brought about efficiency in office. He said the reform would not be complete until the officials who yield to popular clamor or fear to do equal justice to all are turned out and competent courageous men of capability installed.

Argues For Extension of Civil Service

Elliot H. Goodwin, of New York, secretary of the National Civil Service Reform league, added to the arguments of other speakers for extension of the civil service principle to higher officials. "Municipal Health Problems" was the topic of M. N. Baker of Montclair, N. J.

Today the morning session was made up of general discussions on "Municipal Finances and Taxation," "Municipal Finances," and "City Finances and Budgets." In the afternoon parallel sessions were held at which John M. Eshelman, president of the State Railroad commission and Lewis R. Works, of the Board of Freeholders of Los Angeles, discussed "State versus Municipal Regulation of Public Utilities." A paper on Street Railway Franchises, by Deloss F. Wilcox, of the New York Public Utilities commission and another by J. W. S. Peters, of Kansas City, on the same subject were presented. "Excess Condemnation" was treated by Robert S. Binkerd of New York, and "Commission Government and City Planning," by Dr. Ernest S. Bradford, of Washington. "Effective Housing Campaigns" was the subject discussed by John Ihlder, of New York, and Rev. Dana W. Bartlett, of Los Angeles.

In the evening a banquet was held at the Alexandria hotel. Thursday, a long morning program was given and Friday was devoted to a clinic on the Los Angeles charter providing for commission government, the tentative draft of which had been studied by the members since their arrival in the city.

CONFER ON CONTRACT.

Alexander's Bondsmen Dicker With Commissioner Humphreys.

Whether the city shall forfeit the street sweeping contract of Charles A. Alexander for alleged failure to furnish the required equipment, has not been definitely determined, although daily conferences have been held between W. M. Humphreys, commissioner of public works and representatives of Alexander the last week.

Several days ago, the board called on Alexander's bondsmen to carry out the terms of the contract and the latter have been dicker ever since with the board in the hope of adjusting the matter.

TO SELL ACREAGE.

Aqueduct Authorized to Dispose of Land Near Palmdale.

Authority to sell 2600 acres of land six miles west of Palmdale, was yesterday granted to the aqueduct department by the city council. The lowest price the city will consider for the land is \$30,000 and it is expected that more will be received.

The land was purchased in 1906 by the aqueduct department and it was intended for a reservoir site. The purchase price was \$26,000. Some changes were made in the line of the aqueduct after the purchase and the reservoir site was found useless for that purpose.

Would Make Budget Committee All Year Around Institution

Civil Service Department Has a Plan to Increase Efficiency by Keeping Constant Watch on City's Expenditures.

A budget committee on the job 12 months a year instead of only a few weeks, would bring about better results for the money expended, is the belief of the civil service department, and an effort to have something of the kind adopted will be made by the department in connection with the proposed efficiency bureau.

Instead of the present plan of giving departments a little more each year than they had the year before, the continuous budget committee would be expected to watch the expenditures of all departments through the year and dole out the expense money once a month, or once a week. Provision for large outlays would have to be made in advance, but a weekly accounting of the money would be demanded by the committee. Expenditures would be gauged accordingly. This plan is now followed in the aqueduct department.

MECCA OF ASTRONOMERS

Largest Lens in World Being Ground at Carnegie Observatory Plant in Pasadena.

The time when it is to be determined whether the immense 100-inch lens being ground at the Carnegie Observatory plant, on Santa Barbara street, near Lake avenue, Pasadena, will soon make possible the construction of the largest telescope in the world on the summit of Mt. Wilson, or whether the great piece of imported glass, upon which eight months' of patient labor has been expended, is to be broken up and thrown away and another started, is near at hand. In two or three weeks, it is estimated, the workmen will have reached a stage in the operation where the astronomers will be able to give their verdict.

The grinding of the lens will not be completed so quickly as this. If the disc is found to be satisfactory there will remain a great deal of work to be done on it and it will probably be two years before the mountings can be obtained and set in place on the peak. But if flaws show up and the glass proves to be worthless this same amount of time, plus the time it will take to obtain a new block of glass from across the Atlantic and eight months' of work upon it will be required before the Mt. Wilson astronomers can begin the work that they expect to do with the large instrument provided, of course, that the second lens should turn out all right.

FEDERATED IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

A Step Up the Ladder of Improvement the Result of Six Months' Work

To the Officers and Members of the Federated Improvement Association:

The Federated Improvement Association has just closed another six months of its work, and climbed a step higher up the ladder of improvements. What has been accomplished, some of you say, and where do we stand?

A record of the meetings held during the period mentioned above will reveal an interest manifested by the delegates deserving of more than passing notice. Committees have been appointed on every important matter, and active work engaged in. No dead timber has been accumulated, and whenever the objects for which these committees were appointed had been accomplished they were then cleared off the books to make way for new and more necessary committees.

Frequent visitations have been made to local associations by your officers, and in every instance appreciation marked their visits and many new members were secured.

Opposition has been made by this association whenever, in its judgment of its members, it has been necessary, and notwithstanding uncalculated insinuations have been made against the association from time to time, by some who profess to be loyal citizens, we have never wavered in working for the best interests of all, until today we have grown to be an association representing every section of the city and bound to be recognized for its advancement in all lines of civic and social work.

We may not have done as much as we should. We were determined to do more, but our work has been carried on by those who were busy most of the time and personal sacrifices had to be made to secure the best results, and thus often the labor fell upon a few. But with indomitable willpower and perseverance, under the guidance of your officers, those who worked accomplished much, and helped make the organization what it is today.

The coming six months presages much. We want more co-operation, added perseverance, greater results. You can help towards this, and if every delegate will give the association the very best support he can, no power on earth can prevent it from becoming the strongest, the best and the most influential civic organization on the whole Pacific Coast.

Respectfully submitted,
H. M. CHAPMAN,
Secretary-Treasurer.

SAN BERNARDINO MEDICAL SOCIETY

Has Inaugurated a Campaign for a Sweeping Crusade Against Unsanitary Dairy Conditions

The San Bernardino Medical Society has inaugurated a campaign for a sweeping crusade against unsanitary dairy conditions. Dr. Ide of Redlands has announced that a wealthy Redlands man would install a model dairy midway between Redlands, San Bernardino and Colton, representing an investment of \$20,000 to \$25,000 in order to educate the dairymen and public in pure milk matters.

The society has invited Dr. G. E. Tucker of Riverside to explain the workings of the model dairy there, where certified milk is produced under inspection of the Riverside Medical Milk Commission. The model dairy for this valley develops from Dr. Tucker's presentation of the subject at a meeting of the society recently. The society has adopted resolutions upholding the City Health Board, and appealing to the City Council for more earnest support of the board.

SHORTAGE OF LABOR

Has Interfered Seriously With the Early Peach Harvest in Tulare—Railroad Also Short of Help

Shortage of labor, which has interfered seriously with the early peach harvest in Tulare is also causing serious worry to the officials of the Big Four Railroad Company. Grading work, which was to have started last Wednesday morning, is being delayed as not sufficient men can be secured to man the scrapers and drive the teams.

About sixty men, it was stated by the officials, would take the field soon after the first section of the road is all outside the Tulare city limits. All of the right of way from Tulare to Woodville, the officers claim, has been secured. Ratification of their system of financing the road has not as yet been secured from the railroad commission.

CITY ACTS AS REFEREE

Railroad Company Will Be Called On To Move Telephone Pole

Called upon to act as referee in a dispute between the Los Angeles Railway corporation and the Home Telephone company, over the moving of a pole, the city has decided in favor of the telephone company.

The pole in question is located at Vernon and Central avenues and will have to be moved because of the construction of a new car line, which will necessitate a culvert under the tracks at this point. It is estimated that to move the pole and change the wires at the corner will cost about \$200. Both corporations contend that the other should bear the expense of changing its location and the board of public works was asked to settle the question.

The board asked the legal department for an opinion and the city attorney decided that it was up to the railway company to bear the cost and the board ruled accordingly.

CITY WILL BUY HAY

Contracts Will Be Let for Four Qualities of Feed

Nearly 2000 tons of different kinds of hay are wanted by the city and the council yesterday instructed the city clerk to advertise for bids. As new hay is going into the market, the council believes it will be able to get a better price now than if it waits a while.

The hay contract will be divided into four parts but one hay dealer can bid on all four parts. All hay must be baled. The first is 800 tons of No. 1 cut hay, deliverable in 90 days, the next 800 tons of oat hay deliverable by July 31, the next 200 tons of barley hay and the next 100 tons of alfalfa hay. In addition the city wants bids on 450,000 pounds of different grains including wheat, corn, barley and bran.

BUILDING PERMITS SOAR.

Thirty Per Cent. Gain Shown For Nine Days.

Building permits issued the first nine days in July exceed by about 30 per cent. those for the corresponding period of a year ago, according to figures given out at the close of business last night by Mark Cohn, chief clerk in the building department.

From July 1 to 9, inclusive, this year there were 340 permits issued for total valuation of \$695,284, while for the same days of July, 1911, the figures were 210 permits and valuation, \$421,441.

Balance In Treasury.

The monthly report of the public service department shows that on July 1, there was a balance in its treasury of \$462,165.51. It began June 1 with a balance of \$432,004.85 and during the month received \$130,831.32 in water rentals, meter rentals and other sources of incomes. During the same period it disbursed \$100,675.66.

Fix Guide's Salary

The new city hall guide will receive \$75 a month, the council having instructed the city attorney to amend the salary ordinance providing for the position. It is planned to employ someone whose business it shall be to direct visitors to the city hall to the proper department where they may obtain the information they are seeking without loss of time.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY

The city trustees of Upland have received word from the agents of Anderson Carnegie to the effect that Upland's plans for a public library have been accepted, and that \$10,000 will be given for the purpose. Work is to begin in a very short time, the new building to be located on the City Park grounds, at the northeast corner of D street and First avenue.

Appointments Suggested

Dr. Elbert Wing has been suggested as a member of the housing commission to succeed Dr. Titian Coffey, who has announced his intention of resigning from the commission as soon as the meeting of the National Municipal League is over.

Extend Time

The board of public works has granted the Standard American Drudging company until July 19 to complete the work of filling Fries street at Wilmington.

CITY WINS TITLE TO GRIFFITH PARK LAND

Unquestioned title to a big chunk of Griffith park that has been in dispute in the courts for years, has been obtained by the city, according to the annual report of the city attorney. In this report the attorney tells of the long litigation involving 864 acres in the very heart of Griffith park. J. H. Smith claimed title to this land and brought suit to quiet his title in 1906. The case was fought out to the supreme court, the city winning at every turn. Later, Smith found an old map that he thought supported his claims and again the matter was fought out in the courts, the city winning.

The city attorney's office has been involved in 300 cases during the last fiscal year. Injunction proceedings, numbering 75, head the list. Most of these were defenses of suits brought to enjoin the city against something or other. Condemnation proceedings for opening and widening streets number 62 and condemnations of rights of way, 19. There were four condemnation suits for Exposition park. These are all cases in which the city is plaintiff. The rest are mostly actions to recover taxes, and defense of damage suits.

Of the 300 cases in which the city attorney's office was involved, 177 actions are still pending in the lower courts; 21 are pending in the state supreme court and one in the United States Supreme court. Eight actions were compromised and dismissed, 39 were decided in the city's favor, and only four were decided against the city.

SHORTAGE IN CABBAGES

Fullerton Crop Falls Far Below This Season As Compared With Last—Prices Much Better

The cabbage season for the Fullerton section has closed, the total output having been far below that of last year, although the prices have been much better, netting the growers better profits.

During the season now closed the output from that local district has been about 275 carloads. The market opened at \$45 a ton and averaged through the season \$20 a ton. The cabbage was of the highest quality.

The crop was purchased and shipped by the Pacific Company, M. M. Cobb, Fred Lamphurn, Duncan Campbell, the Berry Association and by the California Vegetable Union, the last concern having moved over 100 carloads. Last year the output was nearly 400 cars, and the average prices from \$14 to \$15 a ton.

SPECIFICATIONS HOLD

City Engineer Denies His Office Permitted Variation on Street Work

In a report to the board of public works, the city engineer denies that his office permitted a variation from the specifications in the improvement of avenue Eighteen from Albion to Barranca.

"While it may seem at the present time," concludes the report, "that a mistake was made in using too hard rock, I am of the opinion that this rock will eventually come to rest and make at least a reasonably satisfactory street." The report was referred to the council.

APRICOT HARVEST

The harvest of the apricot crop at the Marchus and Jeorgenson orchards in the San Pasqual Valley has commenced, although the picking thus far is in the green state, for the market in San Diego. The growers have been offered 8 cents per pound for the dried fruit, but are hoping for more. The season is about two weeks late, on account of the cool weather.

Lodge Directory

VISOR LODGE K. O. F. P. No. 203, Tropico, Cal.

Meets every Monday at 8 p. m. sharp. Visiting Brothers always welcome. Meeting place, K. of P. Hall, Gable Bldg., San Bernardino Road, P. O. Box 10, Glendale. S. Phone Sunset Glendale 521-W.

LA HALLA TEMPLE, No. 122, PYTHIAN SISTERS, Tropico, Cal.

Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday evening at 8 o'clock p. m. in K. of P. Hall, M. E. C. Mrs. L. C. Rice; Secretary, Mrs. Josephine Beyea.

FRATERNAL BROTHERHOOD No. 902 Tropico, Cal.

Meets every Wednesday at 8 p. m. sharp. Visiting Brothers and sisters welcome. K. of P. Hall, San Bernardino Road, F. H. Davis, Pres.; Wayne V. Frank, Treas.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON CLUB OF TROPICO—Meets First and Third Thursday of each month at residences of club members. Club President, Mrs. Dwight Griswold; club secretary, Mrs. A. O. Conrad.

N. P. BANKS POST NO. 170—Meets First Saturday of each month at 2 p. m. in G. A. R. Hall, Tropico, Glendale Avenue. Post Commander, Rev. C. R. Norton, No. 411 West 3rd street, Glendale. Post Adjutant, P. E. Barrett, Glendale. All visiting comrades cordially invited to attend all meetings.

N. P. BANKS WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS, No. 167—Meets second and fourth Fridays of each month, at 2 p. m. in G. A. R. Hall, Glendale Avenue, Tropico. Corps President, Mrs. Mae Burlingame, Rose Villa, Sycamore street, Glendale. Corps Secretary, Mrs. Mary C. K. Shuey, Columbus street, Tropico.

GLEN EYRIE CHAPTER, No. 237, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR—Meets Second and Fourth Thursdays of each month at 8 p. m. in Masonic Hall, Brand Boulevard, Glendale. Worthy Matron, Mrs. Mary Ogden Ryan, No. 809 W. 5th street, Glendale. Secretary, Miss Ruby Borthick, No. 1308 W. 7th street, Glendale.

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302 Thorpe Building

132 N. Broadway, Los Angeles

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Clean and block, new band and binding.....1.25
Clean and block, new band, binding and leather.....1.50

Panama Hats—

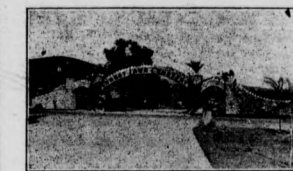
Clean, bleach and block, same trimmings.....1.00
Clean, bleach and block, new band.....1.25
Clean, bleach and block, new band and leather.....1.50
Clean, bleach and block, new band, binding and leather.....1.75

Yacht and Soft Straws—

Clean, bleach and block, same trimmings......50
Clean, bleach and block, new band......75
Clean, bleach and block, new band and leather.....1.00
Clean, bleach and block, new band, binding and leather.....1.25

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THE SCENIC WONDERLAND TRIP OF THE CONTINENT

Send for Illustrated Folder Describing it Fully

Pacific Electric Railway

THE WAY OF A MAN

By EMERSON HOUGH

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"Jack," she cried. "My son, how I have missed thee! Now thee has come back to thy mother." She put her forehead on my shoulder, but presently took up a mother's scrutiny. Her hand stroked my hair, my unshaven beard, took in each line of my face. "There has a button from thy coat," she said reprovingly. "And what is this scar on thy neck; thee did not tell me when thee wrote, Jack, what ails thee?" She looked at me closely. "Thee is changed. Thee is older. What has come to thee, my son?" "Come," I said to her at length and led her toward the steps of the little church.

Then I broke out bitterly and railed against our ill fortune and cursed at the man who would allow her to live in servants' quarters—indeed, railed at all of life.

"Thee must learn to subdue thyself, my son," she said. "It is only so that strength comes to us, when we bend the back to the furrow God sets for us. I am quite content in my little rooms. I have made them very clean, and I have with me a few things of my own—a few, not many."

"But your neighbors, mother, the Sheratons?"

"Oh, certainly, they asked me to live with them. But I was not moved to do that. You see, I know each rose-bush and apple tree on our old place. I did not like to leave them."

"Besides, as to the Sheratons, Jack," she began again—"I do not wish to say

as was not the custom of her people. "Lord, this is not my will. Is this thy will?"

After a time she put her hand upon mine. "My son, now let us reason what is the law. From the law no man may escape. Let us see who is the criminal. And if that be thee, then let my son have his punishment."

"But one thing I know," she concluded, "thee is John Cowles, the son of my husband, John; and thee at the last will do what is right, what thy heart says to thee is right."

CHAPTER XIX.

Hearts Hypothecated.

THE next morning at the proper hour I started for the Sheraton mansion. This time it was not my old horse Satan that I rode. My mother told me that Satan had been given over under the blanket chattel mortgage and sold at the town lively stable to some purchaser whom she did not know, who had taken the horse out of the country. I rode up the little pitch from the trough road and pulled the gate latch with my riding crop. And then, as though it were by appointment, precisely as I saw her that morning last spring—a hundred years ago it seemed to me—I saw Grace Sheraton coming down the walk toward me, tall, thin. Alas! she did not fill my eye. She was elegantly clad as usual. I had never seen dress of skins. Her dainty boots clicked on the gravel. A moccasin would not.

I threw my rein over the hook at the iron arm of the stone gate pillar and, hat in hand, I went to meet her. I was an older man now. I was done with roystering and fighting, and the kissing of country girls all across the land. I did not prison Grace Sheraton against the stone gate pillar now, and kiss her against her will until she became willing. All I did was to lift her hand and kiss her finger tips.

She was changed. I felt that rather than saw it. If anything, she was thinner, her face had a deeper olive tint, her eyes were darker. Her expression was gay, feverish, yet not natural, as she approached. What was it that sat upon her face—melancholy, or fear, or sorrow, or resentment? I was never very bright of mind. I do not know.

"I am glad to see you," she said at length, awkwardly.

"And I to see you, of course." I mis-doubt we both lied.

"It is very sad, your home coming thus," she added, at which I caught gladly.

"Yes, matters could hardly be worse for us."

"Your mother would not come to us. We asked her. We feel deeply mortified. But now we hope you both will come."

"We are beggars now, Miss Grace," I said. "I need time to look around, to hit upon some plan of life. I must make another home for myself and for—"

"For me?" She faced me squarely now, eye to eye. A smile was on her lips, and it seemed to me a bitter one, but I could not guess what was hidden in her mind. I saw her cheek flush slowly, deeper than was usual with a Sheraton girl.

"For my wife, as soon as that may be," I answered, as red as she.

"I learn that you did not see Colonel Meriwether," she went on politely.

"How did you know it?"

"Yes," said I quietly, "I have heard of Captain Orme—much of him, very much." Still I could not read her face.

"It was with us a long time this summer," she resumed presently.

"Some two weeks ago he left, for Charleston, I think. He has much business about the country."

"Much business," I assented, "in many parts of the country. But most of all with men of the army. So Captain Orme—since we must call him captain and not minister—was so good as to inform you of my private matters?"

"Yes." Again she looked at me squarely with defiance. "I know all about it."

So there it was. But I kept myself under whip hand still. "I am very glad. It will save me telling you of myself. It is not always that one has the good fortune of such early messengers."

"Go on," I demanded bitterly.

"Whether Miss Grace's fancy has changed I do not know, but thy mother ought to tell thee this, so that if she should jilt thee—why, then?"

"Yes," I said slowly, "it would be hard for me to speak the first word as to a release."

"But if she does not love thee surely she will speak that word. So then say goodbye to her and set about thy business."

We rose and walked down to the street of the little town, and at the tavern bar I secured a conveyance which took us both back to what had once been our home. It was my mother's hands which at a blackened old fireplace in a former slave's cabin prepared what we ate that evening. Then as the sun sank in a warm glow beyond the old Blue Ridge and our little valley lay there warm and peaceful as of old I drew her to the rude porch of the whitewashed cabin, and we looked out and talked of things which must be mentioned. I told her—told her all my sad and bitter story from end to end.

"This, then," I concluded, more than an hour after I had begun, "is what I have brought back to you—failure, failure, nothing but failure."

We sat in silence, looking out into the starry night, how long I do not know. Then I heard her pray, openly,

both of you forgetting. It was idyllic—ideal. You were not precisely babes in the woods. You were a man and a woman. I presume you enjoyed yourselves after a very possible little fashion. I do not blame you. I say I might have done the same. I should like to know if for a time myself—freedom. I do not blame you, only."

"But one thing I know," she concluded, "thee is John Cowles, the son of my husband, John; and thee at the last will do what is right, what thy heart says to thee is right."

"Miss Grace," said I, "I do not in the least understand you. You are not the same girl I left."

"No, I am not. But that is not my fault. Cannot a woman be free as much as a man? Have I not right as much as you? Have you not been free?"

"One thing only I want to say," I rejoined, "and it is this, which I ought not to say at all. If you mean anything regarding Ellen Meriwether, I have to tell you, or any one, that she is clean—mind, body, soul, heart—as clean as when I saw her first."

"Do you know, I like you for saying that!" she retorted. "I would never marry a man who knew nothing of other women—I don't want a milkpail; and I would not marry a man who would not lie for the sake of a sweet heart. You lie beautifully! Do you know, Jack, I believe you are a bit of a gentleman, after all!"

"But tell me, when is the wedding to be?" This last with obvious effort.

"You have not advised me."

"Oh, I beg your pardon. I meant your marriage with Ellen Meriwether. I supposed, of course, you had quite forgotten me!"

"Ellen Meriwether is already married," I said to her, with a calmness which surprised myself. But what surprised me most was the change which came upon her face at the words—the flush—the gleam of triumph, of satisfaction. I guessed this much and no more—that she had had certain plans, and that now she had other plans, changed with lightning swiftness, and by reason of my words.

"Lieutenant Lawrence Belknap and Miss Ellen Meriwether were married. I presume, some time after I started for the east," I went on. "But they were never engaged before our return to the settlements. It was all very suddenly arranged."

"How like a story book! So he forgot her little incidents with you—all summer—side by side—day and night! How romantic! I don't know that I could have done so much, had I been a man, and myself not guilty of the same incidents. At least, he kept his promise."

"There had never been any promise at all between them."

"Then Captain Orme was quite mistaken?"

"Captain Orme does not trouble himself always to be accurate."

"At least, then, you are unmarried, Jack?"

"Yes, and likely to be for some years."

Now her face changed once more. Whether by plan of her own or not I cannot say, but it softened to a more gentle—shall I say a more beseeching look? Was it that I again was at her side, that old associations awakened? Or was it because she was keen, shrewd and in control of herself, able to make plans to her own advantage? I cannot tell as to that. But I saw her face soften, and her voice was gentle when she spoke.

"What do you mean, Jack?" she asked.

If there was not love and caress in her tones then I could not detect the counterfeit. I reiterate, if I should live a thousand years I should know nothing of women, nothing. We men are but boys with them.

Had it been left to my judgment to pronounce I should have called her emotion now a genuine one. Mocking, cynical, contemptuous she might have been, and it would have suited my own mood. But what was it now on the face of Grace Sheraton, girl of a proud family, woman I once had kissed here at this very place until she blushed—kissed until she warmed, until she—

But now I know she changed once again, and I know that this time I read her look aright. It was pathos on her face, and terror. Her eye was that of the stricken antelope in dread of the pursuer.

"Jack," she whispered, "don't leave me. Jack, I shall need you!"

Before I could resolve any questions in my mind I heard behind us the sound of approaching hoofs and there rode up to the gate her brother, Harry Sheraton, who dismounted and hitched his horse near mine, saluting me as he pushed open the great gate. It was the first time I had seen him since my return.

"Am I intruding?" he asked. "I'm awfully glad to see you, Cowles. I heard below you were home. You've had a long journey."

"Yes," I answered, "longer than I had planned by many weeks. And now I am glad to be back once more. No. In answer to his turning toward his horse as though he would leave us. "You are looking well, Harry. Indeed, everything in old Virginia is good to see again."

"Wish I could be as polite with you. Have you been sick? And I say, you did meet the savages, didn't you?"

I knew he meant the scar on the side of my neck, which still was rather evident, but I did not care to repeat the old story again. "Yes," I answered a bit shortly, "rather a near thing of it. I presume Captain Orme told you."

I turned to Miss Grace, who then ad-

mitted that she had heard something of the surgery which had thus left its mark. Harry seemed puzzled, so I saw it was news to him. Miss Grace relieved the situation somewhat by turning toward the house.

"I am sure you will want to talk with Jack," she said to him. "And listen, Harry, you must have him and Mrs. Cowles over here this very evening. We cannot think of her living alone at the old place."

I was still an engaged man. Evidently nothing otherwise had been discussed in the Sheraton family councils, if any such had been held. If never suitor in Old Virginia rode up in sorrier case than mine that morning as I came to call upon my fiancée certainly did never one depart in more uncertain frame of mind than mine at this very moment. I presume that young Sheraton felt something of this, for he began awkwardly to speak of matters related thereto.

"It's awfully hard," he began, "to see strangers there in your own house. I know it must be hard. But I say, your father must have plunged heavily on those lands over west in the mountains. I've heard they're very rich in coal and that all that was necessary was simply cash or credit enough to side the deal over till next year's crops."

"My father always said there was a great fortune in the lands," I replied.

"Yes, I think another year would have seen him through, but that year was not to come for him."

"But couldn't funds be raised somehow, even yet?" I shook my head.

"Well, I'm not so sure," he went on, embarrassed. "My father and I have been talking over these matters, and we concluded to ask you if we might not take a hand in this. At least, we have agreed all along that—in this case you know—and my sister—we have planned definitely that you should live in your old place. We're going to take that over. The redemption time has plenty of margin, and we can't allow those people to come in here and steal one of the old Virginia places in that way. We are going to arrange to hold that for you and my sister, and we thought that perhaps in time something could be worked out of the rest of the property in the same way. That is, unless Colonel Meriwether, your father's partner, shall offer some better solution. I suppose you talked it over with him?"

"I did not talk with him about it at all," said I dutily. For many reasons I did not care to repeat all of my story to him. "None the less, it seems very generous of you and your father to take this interest in me. It would be very churlish of me if I did not appreciate it. But I trust nothing has been done as yet."

"You trust not? Why, Cowles, you speak as though you did not want us to do it."

"I do not," said I.

"Oh, then?"

"You know our family well enough."

"That's true. But you won't be offended if I suggest to you that there are two sides to this, and two prides. All the country knows of your engagement, and now that you have returned it will be expected that my sister will set the day before long. Of course, we shouldn't want my sister to begin too far down—oh, dash it, Cowles, you know what I mean."

"I presume so," said I to him slowly.

"But suppose that your sister should object to the change in my fortunes no longer leaves desirable this alliance with my family?"

"Do you suggest that?"

"I have not done so."

"Has she suggested it?"

"We have not talked of it, yet it might be hard for your sister to share a lot so humble and so uncertain."

"That I presume will be for her to decide," he said slowly.

"By Jove," he broke out at length, flushing as he turned to me. "It is hard for a fellow to tell sometimes what's right, isn't it? Jack, you remember Jennie Williams, across under Catcotin?"

"I thought you were going to make a match of it some time," I said.

"Prettiest girl in the valley," he assented, "but her family is hardly what we would call the best, you know."

"Then why did you go there so often all last year?" I asked him.

"Jack," he said, "it's all through. I want to ask you I ought to marry Jennie Williams, but—"

Now I looked at him full and hard and guessed. Perhaps my face was grave. I was beginning to wonder whether there was one clean thing in all the world.

"Oh, she can marry," went on Harry. "No difficulty about that. She has another beau who loves her to distraction and who doesn't in the least suspect a decent sort of a fellow, a young farmer of her own class."

"And in your belief that wedding should go on?"

He shifted uneasily.

"When is this wedding to be?" I asked.

"Oh, naturally, very soon," he answered. "I am doing as handsome a thing as I know how by her. Sometimes it's mighty hard to do the handsome thing, even mighty hard to know what is the handsome thing itself."

"Yes," said I. But who was I that I should judge him?

"If you were just where I am," asked Harry Sheraton slowly, "what would you do? I'd like to do what is right, you know."

"Oh, no, you don't, Harry," I broke out. "You want to do what is easiest. If you wanted to do what is right you'd never ask me nor any one else. Don't ask me, because I don't know. Suppose you were in the case of that other young man who loves her? Suppose he did not know, or suppose he did know. What would be right for him?"

"Harry and the log for him," admitted he grudgingly. "That's true, sure as you're born."

"When one does not love a girl and sees no happiness in the thought of living with her all his life, what squares that, Harry, in your opinion?"

"I've just asked you," he rejoined. "Why do you ask me? You say one ought to know what is right in his own case without any such asking, and I say that isn't always true. Oh, dash it all, anyway. Why are we made the way we are?"

"If only the girl in each case would be content by having the handsome

thing done by her!" said I bitterly.

CHAPTER XX.

THE Uncovering of Gordon Orme. It is not necessary for me to state that dinner in the Sheraton hall, with its dull mahogany and its shining silver and glass, was barely better than a nightmare to me, who should have been most happy. At least there remained the topics of politics and war, and never was I more glad to plunge into such matters than upon that evening. In some way the dinner hour passed. Miss Grace pleaded a headache and left us, my mother asked leave, and presently our hosts



I Saw Him Plainly. It Was Gordon Orme

and host departed. Harry and I remained to stare at each other moodily.

I admit I was glad when finally he announced his intention of retiring.

A servant showed me my own room. My restlessness grew upon me so that, some time past midnight, not having made an attempt to prepare for sleep, I arose, went quietly down the stair and out at the front door, to see if I could find more peace in the open air. By this time every one of the household had retired. I was surprised, therefore, when I saw a faint streak of light from one of the windows flash out across the lawn. Not wishing to intrude, I changed my position. Almost at that instant I saw the figure of a man appear from the shrubbery and walk directly toward the house, apparently headed for the window from which emerged the light.

I watched him advance, and when I saw him reach the heavily barred trellis which ran up to the second gallery, I felt confirmed in my suspicion that he was a burglar. Approaching carefully in the shadow, I made a rapid run at him, and as his head was turned at the time, managed to catch him about the neck by an arm. His face, thus thrown back, was illuminated by the flare of light. I saw him plainly. It was Gordon Orme!

The light disappeared. There was no cry from above. The great house, lying dark and silent, heard no alarm. I did not stop to reason about this, but tightened my grip upon him in so full a fashion that all his arts in wrestling could avail him nothing. I had caught him from behind, and now I held him with a hand on each of his arms above the elbow. No man could escape me when I had that hold.

He did not speak, but struggled silently with all his power. At length he relaxed a trifle. I stood close to him, slipped my left arm under his left along his back, and caught his right arm in my left hand. Then I took from his pocket a pistol which I put into my own. I felt in his clothing and finally discovered a knife, hidden in a scabbard at the back of his neck. I drew it out—a long bladed, ivory thing I found it later, with gold leaf into the hilt and woven into the steel.

He eased himself in my grip as much as he could, waiting, as I knew, for his chance to twist and grapple with me. I could feel him breathing deeply and easily, resting, waiting for his time, using his brains to aid his body with perfect deliberation.

"It's no use, Orme," I said to him. "I can wring your neck or break your back or twist your arms off, and I've a notion to do them all. If you make any attempt to get away I'm going to kill you. Now come along."

I shoved him ahead of me, his arms pinioned, until we found a seat far away in a dark portion of the great front yard. Here I pushed him down and took the other end of the seat, covering him with his own pistol.

"Now," I demanded, "tell me what you are doing here."

"You have your privilege at guessing," he sneered in his easy, mocking way. "Have you never taken a little adventure of this sort yourself?"

"In Virginia we keep the shotgun for men who prowled around houses at night," I said. "What are you doing here?"

"You have no right to ask. It is not your house."

"There was a light," said I. "For that reason I have a right to ask. I am a guest, and a guest has duties as well as a host."

"If I give you parole," he asked, "will you believe me and let us talk freely?"

"Yes," said I slowly. "You are a liar, but I do not think you will break parole."

I threw the pistol on the seat between us. "What is it you want to know?" I asked. "And again I ask you why are you here when you are supposed to be in South Carolina?"

"I have business here. You cost me my chance out there in the west," he answered slowly. "In turn I cost you your chance there. I shall cost you other things here. I said you should pay my debt." He motioned toward my neck with his slim finger.

"Yes, you saved my life," I said, "and I have hated you for that ever since."

"Will you make me one promise?" "Perhaps, but not in advance."

"And will you keep it?"

"If I make it"

(Continued next week)

Rates, Dates 1912 Excursions

July 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31.	
August 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31.	
September 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12.	
Fifteen days going limit.	
Return Limit	
October 31st, 1912.	
FARES	
Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo	\$55.00
Omaha, Kansas City, Dallas, Houston	60.00
St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans	70.00
Chicago	72.50
St. Paul, Minneapolis	73.50
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